Your rubbish, your responsibility

Are you doing the right thing with your waste? Find out or you could end up with a criminal record and face an unlimited fine.

www.recycleforessex.com/crimenottocare
Thousands of people are contributing to the fly-tipping problem in England, and have no idea they are doing anything wrong.

Remember – if it’s your waste, it’s your responsibility. If your waste is found dumped, even if someone else has done it, you could be held responsible for the crime.

**Protect yourself by asking a few questions**

1. **If you use a trader to remove your waste ask to see their waste carriers registration number issued by the Environment Agency**

   Whether you find someone through social media, an advert, or even someone approaching you directly – you need to check they are a registered waste carrier. It is illegal for them to take your waste if they are not and they could be a rogue trader.

   **Ask for their waste carrier number and vehicle details, and contact the Environment Agency directly on 03708 506 506 for a free instant waste carrier check or check online at [https://www.gov.uk/guidance/access-the-public-register-for-environmental-information](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/access-the-public-register-for-environmental-information)**

2. **Ensure that you receive a transfer notice or receipt before your waste is taken away**

3. **Check where your waste is going**

   Being a registered waste carrier means the person can legally remove your rubbish, but you still need to check what is going to happen to it. Don’t be afraid to ask questions and ask for paperwork that shows where your waste is going.

   **A legitimate waste carrier should not object to you asking these questions**

4. **Protect yourself by taking care with your waste**

   - Make a note of who you have given your waste to, their waste carrier details and vehicle details.
   - You should never leave any waste such as an old washing machine or scrap metal on your drive or in the street for someone to remove. They may not be a registered waste carrier, and could take the bits they need and dump the rest.
   - You should never leave items out for others to re-use. You can donate good quality items to your local reuse organisation or charity shop, or give items to someone who could make use of them.

**Remember it’s your waste, your responsibility – check to protect yourself.**